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DEATH

May Be In Store For Russian Generals Who Gave Up Port Arthur

Indictment Charges General Stoessel With Surrendering Too Soon

Many Side Lights Are Thrown On the Dreadful Scenes of Carnage

St. Petersburg, Dec. 9.—The final stage of the court martial of Lieut. General Stoessel will begin in this city tomorrow. There has been protracted delays in taking testimony in the far east, but now this material is in order and proceedings will go ahead rapidly.

Gen. Stoessel is accused of having surrendered the fortress at Port Arthur before he had exhausted its resources of defense. The punishment for this, under the Russian code of death. He is to be tried also on a charge of lacking initiative and with having exceeded his powers.

General Fock and General Reiss are co-respondents with him. The first is accused of having conspired the surrender of the fortress and the second with having executed the order of surrender. General Smirnov, General Stoessel's most bitter enemy, is to be tried on a minor count.

The court will be composed of nine generals under the presidency of Vice Admiral Doubassoff. The basis of indictment is practically identical with that set forth in the secret plan of defense of Port Arthur made by General Smirnov, but counsel for defense have announced their intention of broadening the scope of the inquiry to bring in the conduct of the ministry of war, both prior and during the war with Japan.

The trial is exciting the most intense interest in army circles. Every ticket to the little auditorium in the Army and Navy club, where the hearing will be held, has been taken by army officers of high rank.

The indictments against Generals Stoessel, Reiss, Fock and Smirnov are full of sidelights on the final stages of the siege of the fortress and on the confusion which existed in the direction of the defense owing to the ambiguous position of General Smirnov. Nominally this general held chief command of the fortress, but actually he was supplanted by General Stoessel, who was little more than the mouthpiece of General Fock.

Before communication with Port Arthur was finally cut off General Kurapatkin both telegraphed and wrote to General Stoessel instructing him to hand over the command of the fortress to General Smirnov and rejoin the Manchurian army. General Stoessel did not follow these instructions. On the contrary, he remained at Port Arthur and arrogated to himself supreme authority. General Smirnov found his hands completely tied. His suggestions were ignored, his orders countermanded, and his subordinates received direct orders from General Stoessel without any reference to himself. Much of the evidence at the preliminary inquiry turned on the allegations against General Stoessel of military incapacity, lack of foresight in regard to the collection of food supplies and failure to make the best use of his troops by providing them with adequate rations.

At the military council held on Dec. 7, the food condition was thoroughly canvassed and the first idea of surrender was formulated in General Stoessel's name by General Reiss, chief of staff. This proposal was rejected by the council. A week later General Fock was appointed chief of the land defenses in succession of General Kondratenko, who had been

LOOTERS

Bunch of Trust Officers

Jailed in Frisco for Crooked Work

President of Concern Nabbed as He Was Skipping From State

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 9.—James Brown, vice president and general manager of the California Safe Deposit and Trust company, has been joined in jail by W. J. Barnett, director of the suspended bank. The two men are now prisoners at the city prison.

At the same time President David F. Walker of the wrecked bank, is under arrest at Santa Barbara and will be brought back to San Francisco under guard. All three men are charged with embezzling stock and bonds of the Colton estate.

A meeting of the depositors of the California Safe Deposit and Trust Co. will be held this evening. Attorney General U. S. Webb announced this morning that all stockholders of the defunct bank would be joined as defendants in the suit for the appointment of a receiver and that they will be held by the debts of the bank.

Lost His All

Santa Barbara, Cal., Dec. 9.—At the police station, where President Walker was taken, he made the following statement:

"I am innocent of any wrongdoing in this matter and came to Santa Barbara some days ago upon advice of physicians and attorneys because the affairs of the bank were wearing heavily upon me.

"To show the confidence I had in the institution I will say that I continued to make private deposits up to two days before the crash and I am left without a dollar, except what is now on deposit in the bank. I have \$43,000 there and besides am a heavy stockholder in the institution. I will return to San Francisco, as soon as possible and may arrange to go tonight.

killed. General Fock is considered responsible for the evacuation of vitally important forts between Dec. 18, and January 1, and the evidence on this point is incontrovertible.

The indictment gives a terribly graphic description of the straits to which the defending forces were reduced by shell and rifle fire, mines and hand grenades. The losses were enormous. On one position alone the casualties exceeded four hundred in a single day and at another point there were but thirty survivors from a detachment of over three hundred men.

Nevertheless neither General Gorbatowsky nor General Smirnov admitted the possibility of voluntarily evacuating the defenses and they both bitterly upbraided General Fock when they heard of his order to do so. The military council before the capitulation was held at Port Arthur on the evening of Dec. 29. The council voted nineteen to three in favor of holding out to the last extremity. General Stoessel took no active part in the discussion but General Reiss, who recited a number of reasons for surrender, undoubtedly spoke in his behalf.

There is evidence to prove that in the matter of provisions Port Arthur could easily have held out another month and the reserves of ammunition, both artillery and rifle, would have sufficed for even longer than this. The garrison had three hundred effective guns when the fortress was surrendered.

The standpoint taken by Generals Stoessel, Reiss and Fock is that the fate of Port Arthur was sealed with the capture of the "Eagles Nest," and two other positions by the Japanese, that every point remaining in the hands of the Russians was exposed to Japanese fire and that the so-called second and third lines of defense were absolutely valueless.

GUSTAVE 78 BODIES

Crown Prince of Sweden Takes Oath and Receives Homage

Good King Oscar Died Sunday Morning and the Nation Mourns

He Had Endeard Himself to His People in a Personal Sense

Stockholm, Dec. 9.—Oscar II, king of Sweden, died at 9:10 o'clock Sunday morning. The death of the venerable monarch occurred in the royal apartments of the palace, where, surrounded by the members of his family, including the aged Queen Sophia and the crown prince, Oscar Gustave, and high ministers of the state, the inevitable end had been awaited, while outside the palace great crowds stood with bowed heads and tearful eyes long after the announcement came of the death of their well loved sovereign.

The Multitude Wept

The whole country is bowed with grief, for King Oscar was something more than a ruler of his people and had endeared himself to them as an intimate and personal friend. When the flag on the palace was dipped to half mast there was a moan of anguish from the assembled multitude, and many of them cried, "Our dear old king is dead."

Prince Takes Oath

The succession to the throne of Sweden now passes to Oscar Gustave Adolphe, Duke of Vermland, the eldest son of the late king. At a meeting of the council of state yesterday afternoon the new king took oath of allegiance under the title of Gustave V. and adopted the motto, "With the people for the fatherland." The princess then took the oath of allegiance and the new monarch accepted the homage of the state officials.

New King Receives Homage

Stockholm, Dec. 9.—Attended by the princess and his suite, King Gustave V., at noon today, received the homage of the troops, who were drawn up in a semicircle around the palace. It was a splendid and solemn spectacle. The king addressed the troops briefly, saying that it was his firm conviction that they would always be ready to follow when the welfare of the country required them to do so.

The funeral of the late King Oscar is expected to be held Dec. 19. Only

So Far Recovered From Mine Disaster After Dreadful Risk

Miners Claim 406 Men Were Checked Off Before Entering Mine

Foreign Woman Waits All Day With Carnations for Dead Husband

Monongah, W. Va., Dec. 9.—When darkness came tonight a total of 78 bodies had been brought from the two wrecked mines at Monongah. The rescue work, while slow, was progressing smoothly and as rapidly as precaution for the rescuers would permit.

It is believed that close to a hundred dead will have been recovered by daylight tomorrow. The fire which caused a suspension of rescue work yesterday and early today was extinguished, it is stated, at noon today.

The company issued a statement today in which the claim is made that later developments lead the officials to believe there were only two hundred and sixty men in the mine when the explosion occurred. The statement, however, is believed to be purely conjecture and no one who is familiar with conditions here takes it seriously. It is insisted by the miners of the district that four hundred and six men were checked off as entering the two mines last Friday morning and in addition to that number there were many having duties in the mine who are not under the checking system.

At mine No. 6, a foreign woman, whose husband had been killed, stood near the mine all day with a half dozen carnations in her hand. The little floral tribute was wrapped with white ribbons. Shortly after noon her husband's body was recovered in such a condition that burial was necessary at once. A foreigner, who is employed at the Riverdale mine, ten miles above Monongah, lost a brother and thirteen other relatives in the catastrophe and he is left alone in this country.

the reigning sovereign of Sweden among the crowned heads is likely to attend. The king of Denmark and others sending representatives. Dowager Queen Sophia has decided to live in retirement at Castle Ulriksdale.

GOLDFIELD

Is Seething With Excitement

Over Report of Coming Strikebreakers

Troops Are Stationed About Mines Which Will Open Thursday

Goldfield, Nev., Dec. 9.—The troubles of Goldfield are to be reopened on Thursday next. The wage scale is to be reduced. Meanwhile men will be brought here to the number of 500 to take the places of the strikers. Such is the decision of the executive committee of the Mine Owners' association today. The change from Wednesday to Thursday was made to allow time to get men from other points to replace the strikers. Gov. Sparks will come to Goldfield on Thursday.

Troops now here will be scattered through the camp and will practically guard the mines. The card system, as used at Cripple Creek, will be introduced. Frank A. Kelth, general manager of the Tonopah Mining company, and other prominent mining men from other camps are here in consultation with the Goldfield owners.

A street brawl took place on the main street today when a member of the Western Federation called one of the officers of the troops a vile name. John Davis, who was walking with the officer, grabbed the offender and held him until another officer arrived. An attempt to draw a revolver was prevented by bystanders.

Capt. W. S. Wayne of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, noted as a mine strike breaker, arrived from Coeur d'Alene last night. He says he is here to simply watch the situation.

The order given for horses for the troops under command of Col. Reynolds was countermanded this morning and it is doubtless the intention to divide the two camps now established into a number of smaller camps nearer to the large mines, where the first attempt to re-open will be made, and where the first trouble will occur, if there is to be violence.

Officers of the Mine Owners association assert they have not imported a large number of nonunion men to take the place of the strikers, but are depending on those now in the federation who are ready to withdraw. They will permit men belonging to the American Federation of Labor or affiliated unions to go to work and will not bar men belonging to any labor organization except the Western Federation and Industrial Workers of the World.

The streets of Goldfield are crowded with men discussing the situation and the air is filled with many wild rumors.

The general feeling is that serious trouble is liable to commence at any minute. C. H. Mackinnon, president of the Goldfield Miners' Union, stated this morning that he does not believe there will be violence. He is still looking, he says, for an amicable settlement of the difficulties.

GUILTY

Nevada Statesman and Brother Plead Guilty to Gobbling Land

Carson City, Nev., Dec. 9.—In United States court today State Senator Williams and his brother, George B. Williams, indicted for illegally appropriating government land, through their attorney, entered a plea of guilty to five indictments.

Steamer Ashore

St. John, N. B., Dec. 9.—The Dominion Atlantic Railway company's steamer Yarmouth, bound from Digby, N.S., to this port, is ashore at Black Point, near here, the vessel is not in immediate danger.

EVANS

The Admiral Hoists His Two-Starred Pennant and Takes Command

Fourteen of His Sixteen Fighting Monsters Are In Line

Other Two Will Arrive Today and All Sail Next Monday

Old Point Comfort, Va., Dec. 9.—The double-starred flag of blue, the emblem of the commander-in-chief of the Pacific bound battleship fleet was hung to the breeze from the main truck of the battleship Connecticut today and Rear Admiral Evans formally assumed his position as leader of the greatest naval movement in the history of the American people.

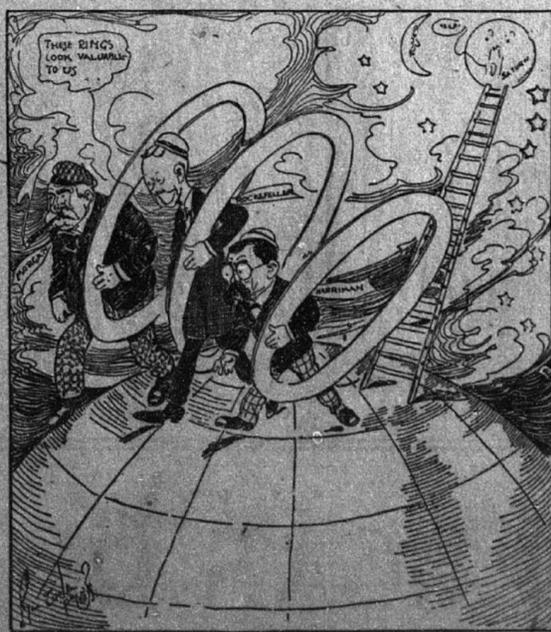
This was assembly day for the fleet which is to set sail next Monday, and of the sixteen great fighting machines ordered to skirt the southernmost of all America and inaugurate a new naval era in the Pacific ocean, there were but two laggards. These were the 16,000-ton Minnesota, flagship of Rear Admiral C. M. Thomas, commander of the second squadron of the fleet and the Kentucky, whose paltry 11,525 tons relegated her to a position at the end of the armed column. The Kentucky also is the oldest vessel among the sixteen, having been laid down with her sistership, the Kearsarge, in 1898, at the beginning of the war with Spain. Nine years ago is an ancient period in modern battleship construction, so great have been the strides in American naval architecture.

The Minnesota and Kentucky are both expected to drop anchor in Hampton Roads tomorrow and then the historic fleet will be complete. The new Maine, which two short years ago was flagship of the commander-in-chief, but is now thrown back to eleventh place in the list, came in today, making fourteen battleships at anchor off here.

The ships are disposed in two long lines, leading in a crescent, which begins just off the Old Point pier and points toward Norfolk. The Connecticut, which lies scarcely more than a stone's throw from the pier, heads the column nearest the shore, next to her is her sister ship, the Louisiana, the champion hard-hitting, fast-firing of her class, and then in turn come the Kansas and Vermont, all registering 16,000 tons and belted with steel that is rated weight impregnable. These four vessels compose the first division of the first squadron of the fleet and are personal charges of Rear Admiral Evans.

The second division in the first squadron is made up of the Georgia, Virginia, New Jersey and Rhode Island. The flag of Rear Admiral William H. Emory, in command of the division, floats from the Georgia. They are all of a type, and with a displacement of nearly 15,000 tons each, they combine the tremendous driving force of 19,000 horsepower and their trial trips have all exceeded nineteen knots, a speed attained by few of the heavily armored vessels of the world.

Both absentees from the fleet today are in the second squadron column, the head of the line being left for the Minnesota, which is bound down coast from the New York navy yard. The Minnesota was the last of the big vessels to dock at New York and was given forty-eight hours' grace under orders to report in Hampton Roads not later than today. Awaiting the Minnesota in the second squadron are the Maine, Ohio and Missouri, of the third division of the fleet, and in the fourth division are the Alabama, flagship of Rear Admiral Sperry, the Illinois and Kearsarge. The Kentucky will complete this division and squadron when she arrives from Boston.



WE KNEW IT WOULD HAPPEN. The rings of Saturn have disappeared.—News Item.